

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 18-22 are pending. Although none of the groups listed on pages 2-3 of the Action mention treatment and prevention of celiac disease linked disorders, Applicants elect with traverse for examination on the merits the invention directed to such treatment or prevention using a proline specific endoprotease. Claims 8-9, 11-12, 15, 18 and 20-22 read on the elected invention. Note that claims 8 and 11-12 are generic for any method of treatment or preventing a disease. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute nonelected subject matter in a further patent application.

The amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure and, thus, no new matter is added by their entry. The correct informalities and convert "use" claims to an acceptable format for U.S. practice.

Notwithstanding the above election, reconsideration of the restriction requirement is requested because examination of all pending claims would not constitute a serious burden. Although the inventions identified by the Examiner are separately patentable, both the need for compact prosecution and the public interest would be served by examination of all claims in a single application.

Applicants earnestly solicit an early and favorable examination on the merits. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Gary R. Tanigawa
Reg. No. 43,180

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100